Remarks

The present application is a continuation of Application Serial No. 09/622,869 filed on August 23, 2000, which is a National Stage of International Application No. PCT/US99/28848 filed on December 6, 1999, which claims the benefit of (a) Provisional Application No. 60/113,397 filed on December 23, 1998, and (b) Provisional Application No. 60/117,958 filed on January 28, 1999. The specification has been amended to reflect such a priority claim.

Applicants have cancelled claims 1-60. Claims 61-110 have been added which are drawn to various aspects of the invention.

In addition, applicants bring to the Examiner's attention the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 (3 pages). Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.98(d), copies of these references are not enclosed as they were previously cited by or transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in the parent applications identified above. It is respectfully requested that the listed references be made of record in the present application.

Respectfully,

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Date: May 5, 2004

Enclosures